## **Kansas State Fire Marshal Prevention Division**



FIRE FACT NO. 020 CHECKLIST(s): 06

TITLE: STAIRWAY ENCLOSURES CHECKLIST ITEM(s): 06-32, 33 REFERENCE(s): 91-101/5-1.3.1

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Stair enclosures are critical components of fire and life safety. Open stairways act as chimneys during fire, quickly spreading smoke, heat and fire upward. An enclosed stairway prevents this.

If stairs connect two floors (not including a basement), no separation is required.

Basement must be separated from the 1<sup>st</sup> floor by at least a 1 ¾ inch solid bonded core wood door at location A or B. Exceptions:

- 1. Partial smoke detection provided; or
- 2. Previously accepted by KSFM and documented in writing.

Stairs connecting three floor levels must have a minimum 1-hour fire-resistive construction with 1-hour rated automatic or self-closing doors equipped with positive latches. Exceptions:

- 1. Buildings protected throughout by an automatic sprinkler system; or
- Complete or partial smoke detection connected to the fire alarm system that has been accepted by KSFM and documented in writing

Stairs connecting four or more floor levels must have 2-hour fire resistive non-combustible or limited combustible construction with openings protected by 90-minute fire rated assemblies, including positive latching doors that are automatic or self closing. Exception:

 Construction previously accepted by KSFM and documented in writing.









